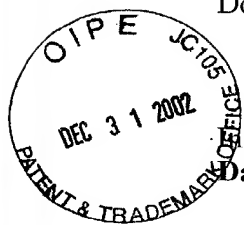


Docket No. p6202D3

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Re Patent Application of:
Dabral, et al.

Application No.: 09/935,470

Filed: 21 August 2001

For: **An Inline and Y Input-Output Bus Topology**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Examiner: **Norris, J. C.**

Art Unit: 2827

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Signature

12-18-2002

Date

RESPONSE A

Request for Reconsideration and Amendment under CFR §1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Office Action dated 7 August 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified patent application as amended below.

In the Claims

Please amend claim 14 to read as provided below.

14. (Amended) A circuit board comprising:

a substrate having an array of vias, the array of vias defining a set of channels on the substrate; and

three bus traces routed on the circuit board so as to enter a first channel belonging to the set of channels and to exit a second channel belonging to the set of channels, the first and second channels adjacent to each other so that there is one row of vias between

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the first and second channels, wherein each of the three bus traces are connected to a via belonging to the row of vias so as to define three connections.

Remarks

Claim 14 is presently active.

In the office action date 7 August 2002 ("Office Action"), claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Dombrowski et al., U.S. patent 5,424,490 ("Dombrowski").

Claim 14 is amended to better define the invention.

In the Office Action, the rejection of claim 14 was based upon Fig. 3 of Dombrowski, where three bus traces associated with rows 41, 42, and 43 of Fig. 3 were identified with the three bus traces recited in claim 14. Claim 14 recites that the three bus traces enter a first channel. A channel is defined in the specification on page 4, line 10, where it is stated that "the region between two consecutive rows (or columns) of a regular array of vias define a channel." With this definition of channel, it is seen from Fig. 3 of Dombrowski that the three bus traces associated with rows 41, 42, and 43 are not contained within a single channel. That is, these three bus traces are not in a "first channel". Consequently, Applicants believe that claim 14 is not anticipated by Dombrowski.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Z. Kalson Dated: 12-18-02

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